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Reporting from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention
Work of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention

Progress report on the work of the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention

Note by the secretariat*

Summary

This report summarizes the proceedings and outcomes of the three meetings held by the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE) in 2014. During these meetings, the CGE developed its 2014–2018 work programme, revised its rules of procedure and took stock of the progress made in the implementation of the work programme in 2014. The group also assessed the achievements and lessons learned in implementing its work programme and provided relevant recommendations.

* This document was submitted after the due date in order to take into account the outcomes of the 13th meeting of the reconstituted Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, held in Yerevan, Armenia, on 11 and 12 September 2014.

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I. Introduction

A. Mandate

1. The Conference of the Parties (COP), by decision 19/CP.19, continued the Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE) for five years, from 2014 to 2018.

2. The COP decided that the CGE, in fulfilling its mandate, shall function in accordance with the revised terms of reference contained in the annex to that decision. It requested the CGE to develop, at its first meeting in 2014, a work programme for 2014–2018.

3. The COP, also by decision 19/CP.19, requested the CGE to submit a progress report annually on its work to the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) for its consideration at the sessions of the SBI which are held in conjunction with the sessions of the COP.[1]

4. By the same decision, the COP requested the secretariat to facilitate the work of the CGE by organizing its meetings and workshops and compiling reports of its meetings and workshops for consideration by the SBI.[2]

5. The secretariat was requested by the same decision to publish a list of the members of the CGE, including their respective area of expertise and experience relating to national communications (NCs) and/or biennial update reports (BURs), and to notify the SBI of such appointments. The list is published on the UNFCCC website.[3]

B. Scope of the note

6. This report contains a summary of proceedings of the 11th, 12th and 13th meetings of the CGE.

7. At these meetings, the CGE formulated its work programme for 2014–2018,[4] discussed the progress made in the implementation of its work programme for 2014, agreed on the organization of its work for the last quarter of 2014 and held preliminary discussions on its workplan for 2015.

8. In addition to this report, four reports capturing the outcomes of the key activities of the CGE undertaken in 2014, complementary to those conducted under the work programme in 2014, have been prepared for consideration at SBI 41:

(a) Report on the regional training workshops on the preparation of BURs from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention (non-Annex I Parties) (see paras. 27–29 below);[5]

(b) Report on the workshop on peer review of the materials for training the team of technical experts (see para. 33 below);[6]

[1] Decision 19/CP.19, paragraph 7.
[2] Decision 19/CP.19, paragraph 9(a).
[3] <www.unfccc.int/2884.php>.
[4] The work programme of the CGE for the period 2014–2018 is contained in annex I.
[5] FCCC/SBI/2014/18.
[6] FCCC/SBI/2014/19.

(c) The long-term strategy of the CGE (see paras. 36 and 37 below);[7]

(d) Technical report on problems and constraints as well as lessons learned and best practices in the process of and preparation of NCs and BURs by non-Annex I Parties (see paras. 16–18 below).[8]

C. Possible action by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation

9. The SBI, having considered this document and the four reports referred to in paragraph 8 above, is invited to take note of the work programme of the CGE for 2014–2018 and the progress of its implementation in 2014, and provide further guidance on it, as appropriate, to the CGE.

10. In addition, the SBI may wish to invite developed country Parties included in Annex II to the Convention and other developed country Parties in a position to do so to provide financial resources to enable the CGE to implement the activities planned in accordance with its work programme, and to invite multilateral programmes and organizations to collaborate with the CGE, as appropriate, in the provision of technical support to non-Annex I Parties in preparing their NCs and BURs.[9]

II. Meetings of the Consultative Group of Experts

11. The CGE conducted three meetings in 2014, the key activities of which included the development of its 2014–2018 work programme, the revision of its rules of procedure[10] and the stocktaking and review of the progress of implementation of the activities planned in the work programme.

12. The 11th meeting of the CGE, in which 20 members participated,[11] was held in Bonn, Germany, on 20 and 21 January 2014, with the objective of developing a work programme for 2014–2018, in accordance with the revised terms of reference of the CGE. At that meeting, Mr. Fei Teng (China) was elected as the Chair of the CGE and Ms. Rhianna Neely (Bahamas) as the Rapporteur, both for a term of one year.

13. During the meeting, the CGE responded to a number of mandates set out in decision 19/CP.19, as follows:

(a) The group discussed, revised and adopted its rules of procedure in the light of decisions adopted at COP 19,[12] relating to the work and function of the CGE;[13]

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[7] FCCC/SBI/2014/INF.15.

[8] FCCC/SBI/2014/INF.16.

[9] The estimated resource requirements to implement the CGE work programme for 2015–2018 is contained in annex II.

[10] The revised rules of procedure of the CGE are available at <http://unfccc.int/files/national_reports/non-annex_i_natcom/cge/application/pdf/revised_rules_of_procedure_cge_2014.pdf>.

[11] Members from the Bahamas, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, the European Union, Gabon, Japan, Kenya, Maldives, the Netherlands, Pakistan, Peru, Saudi Arabia, the United Republic of Tanzania and the United States of America participated in the meeting, as well as three experts representing international organizations (the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change).

[12] Decision 19/CP.19, annex, paragraph 4.

[13] The revised rules of procedure of the CGE are available at <http://unfccc.int/files/national_reports/non-

(b) The COP requested the CGE to develop at its first meeting in 2014 a work programme for 2014–2018, taking into account, when defining and implementing the work programme, other relevant work by expert groups under the Convention to avoid duplication. In response, the CGE developed a two-tiered, broad work programme covering the whole mandated term of five years, and a more detailed annual workplan for 2014.[14] The group decided that its work programme will be reviewed and revised on an annual basis, starting from 2015, in order to take into account the progress of implementation of the planned activities, as well as the relevant elements from the long-term strategy of the CGE[15] developed in 2014 (see para. 36 below).

14. The 12th meeting of the CGE was held in Bonn on 3 and 4 April 2014. The meeting was attended by 21 members of the CGE,[16] as well as an observer from Azerbaijan, representing non-Annex I Parties from the Eastern European region, who was invited in accordance with the conclusions of COP 19.[17] The 13th meeting of the CGE was held in Yerevan, Armenia, on 11 and 12 September 2014; 16 members the CGE[18] participated in this meeting.

15. At these meetings, the CGE elaborated on the operational details of some of its key planned activities. It also took stock of the progress made on the implementation of the work programme in 2014 and engaged in preliminary discussions of its workplan for 2015. The progress of the planned activities for 2014, including the operational details of some of the key planned activities, is described in detail below.

III. Progress of implementation of the workplan for 2014

A. Compilation of information on problems and constraints, lessons learned and best practices

16. The CGE, in accordance with decision 19/CP.19, annex, paragraphs 2(a) and (g), agreed to prepare a technical report compiling and synthesizing available information on the problems and constraints, lessons learned and best practices in the process of and preparation of NCs and BURs by non-Annex I Parties.

17. The report will inform the work of the CGE in the identification and provision of technical assistance to address the needs of non-Annex I Parties and serve as a source of lessons learned and best practices for non-Annex I Parties. The group also views this task as an area of possible opportunity for collaboration between the CGE and the Global Support Programme for Preparation of National Communications and Biennial Update Reports by non-Annex I Parties (hereinafter referred to as the Global Support Programme), a project funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and jointly administered by the

annex_i_natcom/cge/application/pdf/revised_rules_of_procedure_cge_2014.pdf>.

[14] The draft detailed workplan of the CGE for 2014 is available at <http://unfccc.int/files/national_reports/non-annex_i_natcom/cge/application/pdf/cge_workprogramme_2014.pdf>

[15] FCCC/SBI/2014/INF.15.

[16] Members from the Bahamas, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Ethiopia, the European Union, Gabon, India, Japan, Kenya, Maldives, the Netherlands, Peru, Saudi Arabia, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America and Uruguay participated in the meeting, as well as two experts representing international organizations (UNDP and UNEP).

[17] See document FCCC/CP/2013/10, paragraph 131.

[18] Members from Algeria, the Bahamas, Belgium, China, Colombia, the European Union, Gabon, India, Japan, Kenya, Maldives, the Netherlands, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia participated in the meeting, along with two experts representing international organizations (UNDP and UNEP).

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

18. The CGE, as reflected in the work programme for 2014–2018, will update this technical report on a periodic basis, and will continue providing technical advice and support to Parties, upon request, on this theme.

B. Translation of the training materials on the preparation of biennial update reports

19. The CGE translated its training materials on the preparation of BURs into Arabic, French and Spanish. The translated training materials were made available to Parties through the UNFCCC website.[19] Subject to the availability of resources, the CGE plans to translate the training materials into the remaining official United Nations languages in 2015.

C. Update of the Consultative Group of Experts training materials

20. The CGE, as a part of its work programme for 2014–2018, agreed to update the existing CGE training materials[20] on NCs (covering greenhouse gas inventories, vulnerability and adaptation assessments and mitigation assessments), which were updated in 2011 and in 2012. These training materials are designed to facilitate the preparation of NCs by non-Annex I Parties in accordance with the "Guidelines for the preparation of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention".

21. The planned update intends to take into account the recent developments under the Convention as well as the latest science, in particular, the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Fifth Assessment Report, which became available in 2013 and 2014.[21]

22. The CGE agreed to commence the update of its training materials on vulnerability and adaptation assessments in 2014, and to complete the task ahead of the planned regional hands-on training workshops on vulnerability and adaptation assessments in 2015.

23. At its 12th meeting, the CGE identified the nature and scope of the elements of the existing training materials on vulnerability and adaptation assessment that warrant further updating, based on which the revision of the training materials will commence in 2014 and is expected to continue in the first half of 2015.

D. Development of the e-learning programme

24. SBI 37 welcomed the concept note prepared by the CGE on the e-learning programmes on the preparation of NCs from non-Annex I Parties and reiterated its request for the secretariat to develop the e-learning programme on the basis of that concept note.[22]

25. In response to that request, the secretariat developed an e-learning programme, a web-based online learning platform on the preparation of NCs from non-Annex I Parties based on the CGE updated training materials. A beta version of the e-learning programme was presented to the CGE at its 13th meeting, for its review by October 2014. The release of

[19] The translated materials are available at <http://unfccc.int/7915.php>.
[20] The training materials are available at <http://unfccc.int/349.php>.
[21] The IPCC reports are available at <http://ipcc.ch/report/ar5/index.shtml>.
[22] FCCC/SBI/2012/33, paragraph 22.

the full functional version of the e-learning programme is planned for December 2014, and will incorporate the feedback from the CGE.

26. The architecture of the e-learning programme is designed to facilitate flexibility for a subsequent, substantive revision and to include any new and additional content, such as information on BURs.

E. Regional hands-on training workshops on the preparation of biennial update reports

27. The CGE conducted two regional hands-on training workshops on the preparation of BURs: for the Latin American and Caribbean region, held from 16 to 18 July 2014 in Panama City, Panama, and for the Asia-Pacific and Eastern European regions, held from 8 to 10 September 2014 in Yerevan. The regional hands-on training workshop for the African region, originally planned to take place from 18 to 20 August 2014, in Lomé, Togo, was postponed because of the serious health concerns in Western Africa.

28. The objective of the workshops was to enhance the capacity of the national experts in using the "UNFCCC biennial update reporting guidelines for Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention" to facilitate the preparation of their first BURs. The workshops also served as platforms to exchange views, lessons learned and experiences relating to the process of and preparation of BURs.

29. At its 13th meeting, the CGE took stock of the proceedings of the workshops, and outlined some areas for further improvement on the organization and delivery of such workshops in the future. The summary of the workshop proceedings, including recommendations for further improvements on the organization and delivery of such workshops in the future, are contained in the report referred to in paragraph 8(a) above.

F. Development of the training programme for the team of technical experts

30. The COP, by decision 20/CP.19, adopted the composition, modalities and procedures of the team of technical experts. It requested the CGE to develop and organize appropriate training programmes for nominated technical experts taking into account annexes III and IV to decision 2/CP.17, based on the most up-to-date training materials of the CGE.[23]

31. When defining its work programme for 2014, the group decided to develop and conduct a training programme for technical experts nominated to the UNFCCC roster of experts to enable them to participate in the technical analysis of BURs, including a technical annex on results-based activities relating to REDD-plus[24] submitted by developing country Parties seeking to obtain and receive payments for results-based actions.

32. The training programme is structured to cover two broad themes:

(a) The objective, principles and provisions of the Convention, and the decisions of the COP relating to the submission of NCs and BURs by non-Annex I Parties and the conducting of the international consultation and analysis of BURs;

[23] Decision 20/CP.19, paragraph 4.

[24] Policy approaches and positive incentives on issues relating to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries; and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries.

(b) The approaches involved in preparing NCs and BURs using appropriate guidelines and guidance documents to support the understanding and analysis of BURs.

33. The draft materials prepared for the training programme will be peer-reviewed by a group of national experts, from both Parties included in Annex I to the Convention and non-Annex I Parties, involved in the process of and preparation of national reports, at a workshop to be held on 26 and 27 October 2014 in Bonn.[25] The workshop will continue on 28 October 2014 as a CGE members only event, where the CGE will take stock of the comments received at the preceding two days of the workshop and agree on a way forward that addresses those comments.

34. Based on the feedback from the peer review workshop, the CGE plans to finalize the training materials at the latest by November 2014.

35. Subject to a sufficient number of experts nominated to the UNFCCC roster of experts participating in the technical analysis of BURs and being available to undertake the course, the CGE plans to organize the initial training programme and the proficiency assessment for the nominated technical experts in the first quarter of 2015. The CGE requested the secretariat to prepare a concept note addressing the full spectrum of the delivery and conduct of the training programme and the proficiency assessment.

G. Long-term strategy of the Consultative Group of Experts

36. The CGE developed a long-term strategy for the period 2015–2018, which emanated from one of the recommendations contained in the progress report of the CGE to SBI 39. The CGE recommended that the strategy could address, among other matters, the following:

(a) A long-term management plan to enable the efficient and sustainable implementation of the work programme;

(b) A communication and outreach strategy;

(c) Cost-effective and comprehensive tools to provide technical assistance to non-Annex I Parties;

(d) Options and ways to engage key stakeholders in supplementing the efforts of the CGE.

37. In developing its strategy, the CGE also agreed to explore options and ways to enhance the provision of technical assistance to non-Annex I Parties at the regional, subregional and national levels.

H. Progress in the implementation of paragraph 2(d–f) of the terms of reference of the Consultative Group of Experts

38. The CGE planned to implement activities in response to paragraph 2(d–f) of its terms of reference for its 2014 work programme.

39. In response to decision 19/CP.19, paragraph 2(d), the CGE planned to revisit its previous recommendations on the elements to be considered in a future revision of the "Guidelines for the preparation of national communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention."[26] The recommendations to be considered in a future revision of

[25] FCCC/SBI/2014/19.

[26] See documents FCCC/SBI/2011/5/Rev.1 and FCCC/SBI/2011/5/Add.1.

these guidelines and of the "UNFCCC biennial update reporting guidelines for Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention" are perceived as important elements of the CGE work programme, and as such, the group saw a benefit in conducting another round of surveys to complement information collected in the survey on the problems and constraints, lessons learned and best practices in the process of and preparation of NCs, which was conducted in 2014 for non-Annex I Parties.[27] This activity will be prioritized and undertaken as early as possible in the last and first quarters of 2014 and 2015, respectively.

40. In the light of its significant workload resulting from the implementation of some of the key activities under its work programme that need to be completed by 2014 as mandated by the COP, the CGE agreed that, owing to insufficient time and resources to complete the activities identified in paragraph 35 above by the end of 2014, it would address them at the group's first meeting in 2015.

IV. Cooperation with other expert groups and other constituted bodies under the Convention and with intergovernmental organizations, and participation in other relevant mandated activities under the Convention

A. Other expert groups and other constituted bodies under the Convention

1. Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism

41. The COP, by decision 2/CP.19, established the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts under the Cancun Adaptation Framework, subject to review at COP 22, to address loss and damage associated with impacts of climate change, including extreme events and slow onset events, in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. The COP decided that as an interim measure, the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism would consist of two representatives from each of the following bodies under the Convention, ensuring a balanced representation between developed and developing country Parties: the Adaptation Committee, the Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG), the Standing Committee on Finance, the Technology Executive Committee and the CGE. The COP invited the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the President of the COP, to convene the initial meeting of the Executive Committee by March 2014.

42. The CGE nominated Ms. Hilary Hove (Canada) and Mr. Thiago de Araujo Mendes (Brazil) as the representatives of the CGE to serve on the interim Executive Committee.

43. The CGE, through its representatives, briefed the first meeting of the Executive Committee, held from 25 to 28 March 2014 in Bonn, on the activities undertaken by the CGE relating to vulnerability and adaptation assessments.[28] The CGE noted that providing the Committee with this information presents an opportunity to foster a closer collaboration in undertaking vulnerability and adaptation assessment related activities in the future.

2. Least Developed Countries Expert Group

44. A member of the CGE, Mr. Kamel Djemouai (Algeria), participated in the NAP Expo, held on 8 and 9 August 2014 in Bonn, which was organized by the LEG with the support of the secretariat. The NAP Expo provided a platform for exchanging experiences, lessons learned and gaps and needs in adaptation planning, as least developed countries and

[27] See document FCCC/SBI/2014/INF.16.
[28] FCCC/SB/2014/4.

interested developing countries undertake the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans.[29]

45. The CGE noted that its participation in the activities of other expert groups is important in helping to link the various activities which are cross-cutting in nature and to explore opportunities for conducting activities jointly and/or complementing each other's work. The group therefore recommends exploring an opportunity for a joint CGE and LEG event on issues relating to reporting on the vulnerability and adaptation assessment chapters of NCs and national adaptation plans and any other linked issues, including the means of implementation.

3. Third meeting of the Durban Forum

46. A CGE member, Ms. Hove, participated in the 3rd meeting of the Durban Forum for in-depth discussion on capacity-building, which was held during SBI 40, on 12 and 13 June 2014. It was designed as a platform for sharing information on ongoing activities and good practices on capacity-building. The meeting was attended by over 240 representatives of Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and academia, who shared information and experiences relating to the enhancement and/or creation of an enabling environment and on the assessment of options for and the implementation of mitigation and adaptation measures.

47. The CGE presented its work on the technical assistance it provides to non-Annex I Parties in the preparation processes for NCs and BURs, including on issues relating to the establishment and maintenance of the sustainable national institutional arrangements that are required for the effective preparation of these reports. The involvement of the CGE, as referred to in paragraph 29 above, in the preparation of training materials for the team of technical experts to conduct the technical analysis under the international consultation and analysis process, was also highlighted.

48. The report on the meeting[30] was made available to Parties and other stakeholders who may wish to use the information contained in the report in addition to the information gleaned from the presentations and statements delivered during the meeting, when planning, designing and implementing their capacity-building activities for developing countries. The information contained in the report may be used by the CGE, in performing its mandated functions, to inform its deliberations on matters related to capacity-building.

B. Participation in other relevant mandated activities under the Convention

1. Technical assessment of submissions from Parties on proposed forest reference emission levels and/or forest reference levels

49. The guidelines and procedures for the technical assessment of submissions from Parties[31] on proposed forest reference emission levels and/or forest reference levels were adopted at COP 19.[32] Parties, in particular developed country Parties, and relevant international organizations were invited to support capacity-building in relation to the development and assessment of forest reference emission levels and/or forest reference levels, taking into account the work of the CGE.

[29] See document FCCC/SBI/2014/INF.14.

[30] FCCC/SBI/2014/14.

[31] More information on submission from Parties is available at <http://unfccc.int/8414.php>.

[32] Decision 13/CP.19.

50. By the same decision, the CGE was invited to nominate one of its experts from a developing country Party with relevant expertise to participate in the technical assessment as an observer.

51. Ms. Estefania Ardila Robles (Colombia) was nominated to participate as an observer in the first session of the technical assessment, which was held from 25 to 29 August 2014 in Bonn.[33]

52. The CGE expressed its appreciation of the opportunity to participate in this event as an observer and noted that its involvement had been productive, and had contributed to enhancing its knowledge and understanding on forest reference emission levels and/or forest reference levels.

C. Intergovernmental organizations

1. Global Support Programme for Preparation of National Communications and Biennial Update Reports by non-Annex I Parties

53. In 2014, the CGE representatives from UNDP and UNEP regularly updated the CGE at its meetings on the implementation of the Global Support Programme, which has the overall objective of providing logistical and technical support to non-Annex I Parties with a view to facilitating the timely preparation and submission of their NCs and BURs, and the preparation and submission of intended nationally determined contributions.

54. The Global Support Programme will rely on national and international experts and strategic partnerships with relevant initiatives and international organizations. The CGE noted that there is great opportunity for collaboration and coordination between the CGE and the Global Support Programme, given that:

(a) The implementation time frame of the work programme of the CGE coincides with that of the Global Support Programme;

(b) Both aim to support non-Annex I Parties in the preparation and submission of NCs and BURs;

(c) They address similar substantive themes and target the same groups of national experts.

55. The UNDP component of the Global Support Programme will be based in Istanbul, Turkey and the UNEP component in Nairobi, Kenya.

2. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

56. The Technical Support Unit of the IPCC Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories collaborated with the CGE and the secretariat in giving presentations at the regional hands-on training workshops on the preparation of BURs and on the development of materials for the team of technical experts training programme referred to in paragraphs 30 and 35 above, outlining the key differences between the *Revised 1996 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories* and the *2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*.

3. Global Environment Facility secretariat

57. A representative of the GEF secretariat participated as a resource person in the regional training hands-on workshop for the Latin American and Caribbean region on the preparation of BURs, referred to in paragraph 27 above. The GEF secretariat addressed the

[33] FCCC/TAR/2014/BRA.

procedures involved in accessing funds for the enabling activities from the GEF, including for the preparation of NCs and/or BURs.

V. Planned events of the Consultative Group of Experts in 2015

58. In accordance with its work programme for 2014–2018, in 2015 the CGE will organize three regional hands-on training workshops on vulnerability and adaptation assessment. These are in addition to the planned regular meetings of the CGE. The CGE will also organize the postponed hands-on training workshop for the Africa region referred to in paragraph 26 above.

59. The tentative venue and dates for the planned events in 2015 are contained in the table below, which is the basis for the secretariat to initiate the necessary administrative, logistical and technical arrangements and support.

Tentative venues and dates for the planned events of the Consultative Group of Experts for 2015

Event	*Venue*	*Date*
14th meeting of the CGE	Bonn	29 and 30 January 2015
Hands-on training workshop on the preparation of BURs for the African region	TBD	23–25 February 2015
Hands-on training workshop on vulnerability and adaptation assessments for the Asia-Pacific and Eastern European regions	TBD	29 June to 3 July 2015
Hands-on training workshop on vulnerability and adaptation assessments for the Latin American and Caribbean region	TBD	27–31 July 2015
Hands-on training workshop on vulnerability and adaptation assessments for the African region	TBD	28 September to 2 October 2015
15th meeting of the CGE	TBD	5 and 6 October 2015
Team of technical experts training and proficiency assessment	Bonn	First quarter of 2015

Abbreviations: CGE = Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, BURs = biennial update reports, TBD = to be determined.

VI. Conclusions

60. The CGE has implemented most of the planned activities under its workplan for 2014. It thanked those developed country Parties included in Annex II to the Convention and other developed country Parties that provided financial resources for the implementation of the planned activities. It also thanked those multilateral programmes and organizations as well as non-Annex I Parties that contributed, in the form of technical and/or logistical support, to the successful implementation of the planned activities in 2014.

61. Going forward into 2015, the CGE plans, at its first meeting of 2015, to revisit its work programme and make the necessary adjustments, including incorporating the relevant elements from its long-term strategy referred to in paragraph 36 above. The CGE also conducted a preliminary assessment of the financial resources required to implement its work programme in the next four years (see annex II).

Annex I

Work programme of the Consultative Group of Experts for 2014–2018

Output products	*Activities*	*Implementation timeline*				
		2014	*2015*	*2016*	*2017*	*2018*
Decision 19/CP.19, annex, paragraph 2(a): "Identify and provide technical assistance regarding problems and constraints that have affected the process of and the preparation of national communications and biennial update reports"						
Decision 19/CP.19, annex, paragraph 2(g): "Provide information and technical advice based on, where possible, lessons learned and best practices in the process of and preparation of national communications and biennial update reports by non-Annex I Parties"						
Technical report synthesizing the problems and constraints, lessons learned and best practices	1. Compilation of information on constraints, problems, lessons learned and best practices reported in:					
	1.1. Past CGE and NCSP surveys, complemented with additional CGE questions	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	1.2. NCs	✓			✓	
	1.3. BURs		✓	✓	✓	
	1.4. Reports and other publications by the CGE and the NCSP as well as other relevant institutions and agencies such as WRI, UNEP, UNDP, etc.	✓		✓	✓	✓
	2. Synthesis of the compiled information	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	3. Provision of technical advice and support with respect to paragraph 2(g)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Decision 19/CP.19, annex, paragraph 2(b): "Provide technical assistance and support to non-Annex I Parties to facilitate the process of and preparation of their national communications and biennial update reports"						
Decision 19/CP.19, annex, paragraph 2(c): "Provide technical advice to non-Annex I Parties to facilitate the development and long-term sustainability of processes of the preparation of national communications and biennial update reports"						

Output products	*Activities*	*Implementation timeline*				
		2014	*2015*	*2016*	*2017*	*2018*
I. BUR training materials in other official United Nations languages	1. Translation of CGE BUR training materials into other United Nations languages	X	X		X	
II. Updated CGE training materials	2. Update of CGE training materials to take into account the latest science and developments under the Convention	X	X	X	X	X
III. E-learning courses	3. Development, operation and maintenance of e-learning course	X	X	X	X	X
IV. A pool of national experts trained on the preparation of BURs and NCs	4. Conduct regional hands-on training workshop on the preparation of biennial update reports					
V. Technical reports on the hands-on training workshops	4.1. Latin America and the Caribbean	X		X		
	4.2. Africa	X		X		
	4.3. Asia and the Pacific	X		X		
	5. Conduct regional hands-on training workshop on vulnerability and adaptation assessment					
	5.1. Latin America and the Caribbean		X			
	5.2. Africa		X			
	5.3. Asia and the Pacific		X			
	6. Conduct regional hands-on training workshop on national greenhouse gas inventories					
	6.1. Latin America and the Caribbean			X		
	6.2. Africa			X		
	6.3. Asia and the Pacific			X		
	7. Conduct regional hands-on training workshop on mitigation assessment					
	7.1. Latin America and the Caribbean				X	
	7.2. Africa				X	
	7.3. Asia and the Pacific				X	

Output products	Activities	Implementation timeline				
		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Decision 19/CP.19, annex, paragraph 2(d): "Provide recommendations, as appropriate, on elements to be considered in a future revision of the guidelines for the preparation of national communications and biennial update reports"						
A paper on recommendations on possible elements to be considered in a future revision of the guidelines for the preparation of NCs and BURs	1. Revisit CGE recommendations on elements to be considered in a future revision of the guidelines for the preparation of NCs	x				
	2. CGE recommendations on elements to be considered in a future revision of the guidelines for the preparation of BURs				x	
	3. Analysis of the developments on reporting for non-Annex I Parties since the adoption of decision17/CP.8, as necessary			x		
Decision 19/CP.19, annex, paragraph 2(e): "Provide technical advice and support to Parties, upon request, and information on existing activities and programmes, including bilateral, regional and multilateral sources of financial and technical assistance, to facilitate and support the preparation of national communications and biennial update reports" *Decision 19/CP.19, annex, paragraph 2(f): "Provide technical advice and support to Parties, upon request, on the provision of information on steps to integrate climate change considerations into relevant social, economic and environmental policies and actions"*						
I. Compendium of information on existing activities and programmes to facilitate and support the preparation of NCs and BURs II. Compendium of information on steps to integrate climate change considerations into relevant social, economic and environmental policies and actions	1. Compilation of information on existing activities and programmes to facilitate and support the preparation of NCs and BURs in collaboration with the Global Support Programme/NSCP	x				
	2. Compilation of information on steps to integrate climate change considerations into relevant social, economic and environmental policies and actions in collaboration with the Global Support Programme/NSCP	x				
	3. Update of information on 1 and 2 above in collaboration with the Global Support Programme/NSCP			x		x
	4. Technical advice and support with respect to paragraph 2(e) and (f)	x	x	x	x	x
Decision 19/CP.19, annex, paragraph 2(i): "Develop and organize … appropriate training programmes for nominated technical experts … based on the most updated training materials"						

Output products	*Activities*	*Implementation timeline*				
		2014	*2015*	*2016*	*2017*	*2018*
I. UNFCCC training programme for the team of technical experts II. Pool of experts nominated to the roster of experts trained and certified as the technical experts for conducting the technical analysis of BURs	1. Development of the team of technical experts training programme	X				
	2. Conversion of the team of technical experts training programme into a web-based training programme		X			
	3. Certification workshop/examination for the technical experts	X	X	X	X	X
	4. Revision of the training programme		X			X
Decision 19/CP.19, annex, paragraph 2(h): "Provide guidance and periodic advice to the secretariat to assist it in fulfilling the selection criteria for the composition of the team of technical experts"						
Periodic guidance and advice to the secretariat on the selection of the team of technical experts, as appropriate	Consideration of periodic technical report on the selection of the team of technical experts, as appropriate		X	X	X	X
Other elements of the work programme						
I. Participation in the technical assessment of submissions from Parties on proposed forest reference emission levels and/or forest reference levels	1. Participate in the technical assessment of submissions from Parties on proposed forest reference emission levels and/or forest reference levels	X	X	X	X	X
II. A training module under the team of technical experts training programme covering the technical analysis of data and information used by Parties in the estimation of anthropogenic forest-related emissions by sources and removals by sinks, forest carbon stocks, and forest carbon stock and forest area changes	2. Identify elements for the team of technical experts training programme covering aspects relating to the technical analysis of data and information used and reported in BURs by Parties in the estimation of anthropogenic forest-related emissions by sources and removals by sinks, forest carbon stocks, and forest carbon stock and forest area changes	X				

Output products	*Activities*	*Implementation timeline*				
		2014	*2015*	*2016*	*2017*	*2018*
Representation in the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism	1. Participation in the work of the Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism	x	x	x	x	x
	2. Stocktaking of activities undertaken by the CGE on vulnerability and adaptation	x				
Long-term strategy addressing capacity-building needs of non-Annex I Parties in fulfilling their reporting requirements, including the long-term management plan of the CGE and provision of technical assistance	1. Develop long-term strategy , feedback and revision (including from the SBI)	x				
	2. Implement relevant elements of the long-term strategy		x	x	x	x
	3. Review and revise, as appropriate, the long-term strategy			x		
	4. Explore a potential additional workshop at the subregional/national level, subject to availability of resources	x	x	x	x	x
Updated five-year work programme and annual workplan	Review and revise the five-year work programme, including development of a specific work programme for the year		x	x	x	x
Progress reports on the work of the Consultative Group of Experts, and communication and outreach on its activities	1. Meetings of the Consultative Group of Experts	x	x	x	x	x
	2. Side events of the Consultative Group of Experts	x	x	x	x	x

Abbreviations: CGE = Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties not included in Annex I to the Convention, BURs = biennial update reports, Global Support Programme = Global Support Programme for Preparation of National Communications and Biennial Update Reports by non-Annex I Parties, NCs = national communications, NSCP = National Communications Support Programme, SBI = Subsidiary Body for Implementation, UNDP = United Nations Development Programme, UNEP = United Nations Environment Programme, Warsaw International Mechanism = Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts, WRI = World Resources Institute.

Annex II

Estimated resource requirements to implement the Consultative Group of Experts work programme for 2015–2018

Year	*Estimated resource requirements (USD)*
2015	1 292 000.00
2016	1 579 000.00
2017	1 336 000.00
2018	347 000.00
Total	**4 554 000.00**